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FEC MAIL CENTER

IN AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In re:)	MUR 6390
Senate Conservatives Fund)	
• •) .	

Respondent, Senate Conservatives Fund, Barry Wynn Treasurer ("SCF"), hereby submits the following response to the specific allegations contained in the Complaint in the above-referenced Matter Under Review, MUR 6390.

Response to Complaint's Allegations

1. Complainant is ActBlue, a Democratic/liberal organization federal PAC, which alleges that SCF is a multi-candidate PAC and operates a website for earmarking at http://senateconservatives.com/takeamericaback.

Response: The statement is true. SCF is a multi-candidate federal political committee and does raise funds for, and contributes to Republican candidates for the United States Senate.

2. ActBlue alleges that the feature on the SCF website called "easy butten" allows a donor to "orahe a contribution which is apportioned between some or all of the available canditiates based on the PAC's internal strategic assessment".

Response: The statement is partially correct and partially incorrect. There is an "easy button" feature on the SCF website, and there is polling and other information provided to donors regarding various candidates. SCF also provides suggestions regarding the allocation and how contributors can allocate their contributions to achieve maximum impact based on recent polling, candidate fundraising, and other factors. However, any suggestion that the contribution decision is made by SCF rather than the donor is false. All contribution decisions are made by the discor, not by SCF.

3. Actilius aileges that SCF's "easy button" allocates contributions in a way that is "undisciosed to the contributor".

Response: This is not true. The website shows the donor how his/her contribution could be divided and allows the donor to edit the suggested division on not just the first page of the site, but also on the second page where the donor enters his/her personal information. The "easy button" is used to inform contributors as to which candidates have the greatest need, but it does not force them to do anything; and all donations are fully disclosed and capable of the edited and alignment the donor chooses to do so.

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4. ActBlue alleges that SCF's use of the "easy button" demonstrates that it is exercising "direction and control" ever the contribution and that all earmarked contributions should therefore her countributions SCF's "countribution limits".

Response: The allegation is false. SCF makes recommendations and endorsements, but the donor "directs" and "controls" the contributions he/she makes to candidates and which candidates the donor chooses to support. SCF exercises no control whatsoever over these contribution decisions.

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5. ActBlue alleges that SCF has failed to report contributions made using the "easy button" as being made by both the original contributor as well as by the PAC, and is therefore in violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

Regneure: This is not true. SCF has met all of the reporting requirements for earmarked contributions as can be easily ascertained by the voluminous FEC reports filed by SCF.

The SCF website (Take America Back) allowed donors to either manually enter the desired candidate contributions or to use SCF's "easy button" to make recommendations for their consideration.

The step-by-step operation of the "lensy button" was an follows:

- The "easy button" demonstrated to a donor an allocation of a total contribution among all of the SCF-endorsed candidates based on who needed the most help, fundraising, polling and other publicly available information (i.e. 20% for Ken Buck, 10% for Pat Toomey, etc.)
- The "easy button" allocation was simply a recommendation. Donors could edit each value before they went to the next screen. Also, donors could make additional edits on the second screen where SCF collected their payment information. In other words, there were several points along the way at which donors were asked if they wished to change the amount of their candidate contributions.
- Once denors confirmed their candidate contribution(s), they received a receipt that itemized each donation so they would have a record of the candidates they supported and the amount(s) they chose to contribute in support of each candidate.
- At no time in the process did SCF direct or control the donors contributions. SCF simply made recommendations and left all contribution decisions up to the donor.

The "easy button" feature was disabled as of November 2, 2010, because it was the end of the 2010 election cycle.

The attached screen shots from the SCF website reflex the operation of the "easy butten" feature, and the control retained by the donor:

Attachment 1: Enter Contributions

Attachment 2: Edit Contributions

Attachment 3: Confirm Contributions

Attachment 4: Contribution Receipt

Legal Authority

SCF is a non-connected, multi-candidate positical sommittee registered with the Federal Election Commission, which serves as a conduit for contributions earmarked for conservative Republican eandidates for the United States Senate. SCF was established pursuant to the Federal Electical Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). See specifically, 2 U. S. C. §441a(a)(8); 2 U.S.C. §432(b)(1); 11 CFR §§110.6 and 102.8. SCF solicits contributions on its website and accepts contributions made by credit card, remits earmarked contributions as directed by the donor to candidates selected by the donor in the amount determined by the donor, together with the information necessary for the candidate's reporting obligations as required by 2 U.S.C. §441a(a)(8) or 2 U.S.C. §432(b)(2) and 11 CFR §119.6(c)(1)(iv) or 11 CPR §102.8, respectively.

In fact, NCF operates exactly in the same manner as the Complainant, ActBlue. See www.actblue.com.

SCF studies and interviews GOP candidates for the United States Senate and recommends to SCF supporters and donors those candidates who are conservative and who, if elected, will maintain a commitment to conservative principles. SCF further studies the campaigns of Senate GOP candidates and makes recommendations to its supporters as to which candidates are viable and in need of Anancial support.

Each activities are patterned and only after Actiblue, but also missor the activities engaged in for more than 20 years by Emily's List which, according to its website, others that the PAC "...finds and recommends the top Democratic women candidates for the House, Senate, and governor to our more than 100,000 members across the country and asks them to give directly to these women's campaigns. EMILY's List members get detailed profiles about each candidate's views, backgrounds, and campaigns — and we let them decide whom they wish to support. 100 percent of members' contributions go directly to the campaigns, providing maximum political impact and delivering a bigger cash boost for our candidates".

EMILY's List further asks supporters to become a member by "... contributing directly to EMILY's List and practing to contribute to turn or more recommended candidates."

See www.emilyslist.org

SCF makes recommendations to donors regarding candidates worthy of support from SCF subscribers/members. SCF is, at all times, mindful of 11 CFR §110.6(d) requiring that the direction and control over much contribution must rest with the donor. At no time SCF exercised direction or control over the centribution decision of the donors. See Affiniavit of Don Workman, SCF Member, Attached hersto as Attachment 5.

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CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated herein, because Respondent has committed no violation of the Act, the Complaint against Senate Conservatives Fund, Barry Wynn, Treasurer must be dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted.

|s| Cleta Mitchell

Cleta Mitchell, Esq. Foley & Lardner LLP 3000 K Street, NW #600 Washington, DC 20007

Counsel to Respondent, Senate Cotiservatives Fund

November 23, 2010

ATTACHMENT 1: ENTER CONTRIBUTIONS

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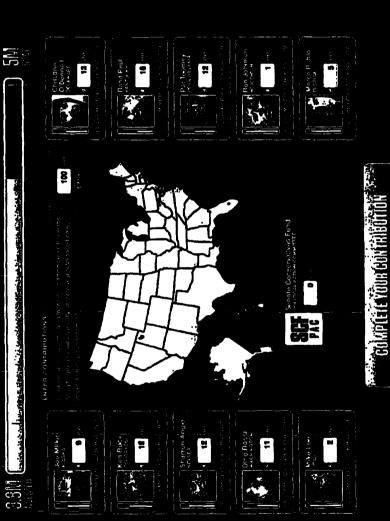
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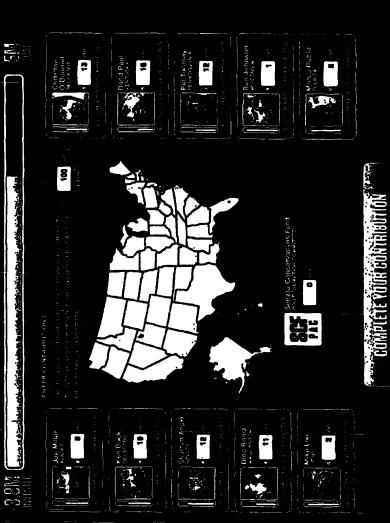
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ATTACHMENT 2: EDIT CONTRIBUTIONS

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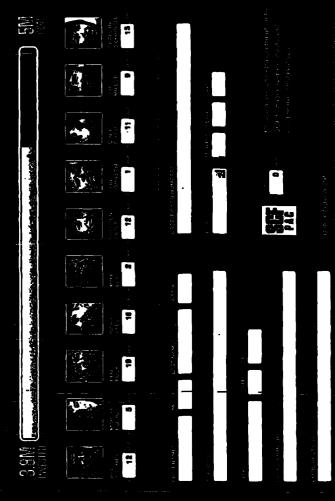
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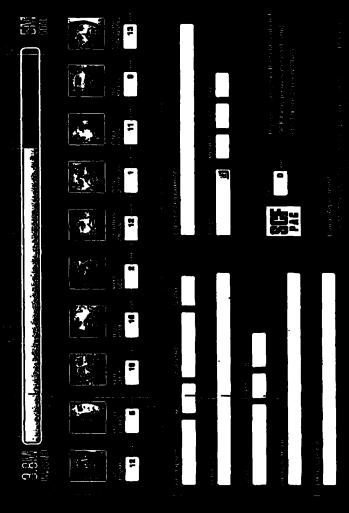
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ATTACHMENT 4: CONTIRBUTION RECEIPT



Contribution Receipt

1 message





Senate Conservatives Fund <noreply@senateconservatives.com>

Wed, Oct 13, 2010 at 1:20 PM

Thank you for supporting the Senate Conservatives Fund. Your contribution will appear as a payment to "Senate PAC" on your credit card statement. If you made a contribution to a specific candidate, it will be delivered to their campaign immediately.

Please email us at <u>contributions@scroac.com</u> or call us at (877) 838-9385 if you have any questions regarding your contribution.

TRANSACTION #41705586Y17259604 CW 15/13/2018

\$1.00
\$2.00
\$ 5.00
\$9.00
\$11.00
\$12.00
\$12.00
\$13.00
\$16.00
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Contributions to Senate Conservatives Fund are not deductible as charitable countributions.

Not paid for at texpayor expense. Contributions from conporations or foreign nationals lacking permanent resident status are not permitted. Federal law requires Standle Conservatives Fund to report the name, mailing address, occupation and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

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ATTACHMENT 5: AFFIDAVIT OF DON WORKMAN